

times and referred to Committee on Private Land Claims.

A bill to amend an Act for the relief of master builders and mechanics, approved 22nd January, 1839, being special order was read 2nd time. The report of the majority of the Judiciary Committee recommending its rejection was adopted by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Batte, Branch, Burnett, Casey, Cook, Crawford of Fannin, Darden, Dickson, Durant, Finlay, Graham, Guinn, Hartley, Jordan, Lea, Mitchell, Moore, Parsons, Reed, Shepard, and Wheeler—21.

NAYS—Messrs. Boyd, Erath, Harcourt, Houston, Obenchain, Scarborough, Shelley, and Weatherford—8.

A bill reestablishing the boundaries of Texas being a special order, on motion of Mr. Shelley, was postponed until 7 o'clock P. M. tomorrow.

Mr. Shelley by leave introduced a bill prohibiting owners or employers of slaves from placing them in charge of farms or stock ranches detached or removed from the home or residence of the owner or employer. Read 1st and 2nd times and referred to Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Weatherford, Chairman of Committee on Private Land Claims, reported a bill for relief of Philip C. Paul and recommended its passage.

Mr. Scarborough presented the petition of Mrs. Martha Brenan. Referred to Committee on Private Land Claims.

On motion of Mr. Guinn the Senate adjourned until 10 o'clock A. M. tomorrow.

Tuesday, December 10, 1861.

Senate met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by the Chaplain, roll called, quorum present. The journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

A message was received from the House announcing the passage of the following bills:

Senate's bill to amend the 14th section of an Act to incorporate the Houston, Trinity, and Tyler Railroad Company. And the following House bills:

A bill for relief of Nelson Tarver.

A bill authorizing the county courts of the several counties in this State to levy and collect a special tax for war purposes.

A bill providing for the sale of the United States five per cent bonds, coupons, &c.

A bill allowing J. P. and F. W. Dent to adopt a female child.

A bill to provide for the protection of the frontier of the State of Texas.

A joint resolution to increase the pay of privates in the Confederate Army.

A bill to locate the county site of El Paso County.

A bill to provide for auditing and settling all claims against the State on account of volunteers called out by the Governor, Committee on Safety, &c.

Mr. Guinn, Chairman of the Committee on Claims and Accounts, made the following report:

The committee having considered the petition of William H. Justiss and the facts show that he is not entitled to any relief. He furnished one Owen D. Griffin a mule worth at the time \$150 or \$200. Griffin was a member of Captain J. P. Hill's company and proved a traitor and fled to parts unknown. I am instructed, therefore, to report the petition back and ask that the relief be not granted.

Mr. Crawford of Jasper, Chairman of Committee on Engrossed Bills, reported the following correctly engrossed:

Bill to amend the 14th section of an Act to incorporate the Houston, Trinity, and Tyler Railroad Company.

Bill to amend the 1st and 11th sections of an Act to authorize the sale of the public domain, approved February 11, 1858.

Mr. Harcourt, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, reported the following bills and recommended their passage:

Bill to change the time of holding the District Courts in the 8th Judicial District.

Bill to change the time of holding the District Court in the 9th Judicial District.

Also, a substitute for a bill to procure the investigation of the rights of the State to the salt lake known as El Sal el Rey.

Mr. Parsons, Chairman of the Committee on Internal Improvements, reported the following bills and recommended their passage:

Bill for the relief of railroad companies of the State of Texas.

Bill for the relief of companies incorporated for purposes of internal improvement, &c.

Mr. Crawford of Jasper, Chairman of Committee on Engrossed Bills, reported as correctly engrossed a bill for the relief of the heirs of Sanford Holman, and a bill for the relief of A. H. Cook.

Mr. Casey, Chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a substitute for a bill defining the pay of certain State troops under Colonel John S. Ford, and Mr. Shelley from same committee on their behalf reported

a bill to create a hospital fund for the sick and wounded soldiers of Texas in the Confederate Army and recommended its passage.

Mr. Lea introduced a bill to further regulate proceedings in district courts. Read 1st and 2nd times and referred to Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Guinn from the Committee on Private Land Claims on their behalf reported the substitute for a bill for relief of heirs of James McCarran.

Mr. Parsons moved to take up a bill for relief of railroads. Lost.

Mr. Branch, from Committee on Military Affairs, on their behalf reported the substitute for a bill to authorize the Governor to purchase arms, &c., which had been referred to the committee, and recommended its adoption and passage.

Mr. Dickson, from Committee on Judiciary, reported a substitute for a bill for relief of Honorable Nat M. Burford and recommended its adoption and passage, Mr. Harcourt making thereon a minority report.

Mr. Weatherford, Chairman of the Committee on Private Land Claims, reported the following bills and recommended their passage:

Bill for relief of Peter Norton.

Bill for relief of heirs of Isaac Pierson.

Bill for relief of Harvey Murphy.

Bill for relief of John Henderson.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

A bill to authorize and require the Comptroller to settle the accounts of quartermasters appointed for the several camps of instruction, &c. Read 3rd time and passed.

A bill authorizing the Governor to appoint Commissioners of Deeds in the Choctaw, Chickasaw, Cherokee, and Creek Nations of Indians, &c. Read 3rd time and passed. A bill to amend the 12th section of an Act to incorporate the town of Mt. Vernon in Titus County. Read 3rd time and passed by constitutional vote, Mr. Boyd alone voting nay.

Mr. Shepard, from Judiciary Committee, on their behalf reported a bill for the relief of heirs of Elijah Allcorn and recommended its passage. On Mr. Shepard's motion the bill was read and passed to 3rd reading. Rule suspended, read 3rd time and passed.

A bill to regulate interest on open accounts. Read 2nd time. House bill to amend the 2nd section of an Act to regulate interest adopted as a substitute, whereupon Mr.

Lea offered a substitute which was adopted and, on motion of Mr. Parsons, referred to Judiciary Committee.

A bill to provide for auditing all claims on account of volunteers called out by the Governor or the Convention. Read 1st and 2nd times and referred to Committee on Military Affairs.

A bill supplemental to an Act for the relief of Myrum Mudget and others. Read 2nd time and passed to 3rd reading. Rule suspended, read 3rd time and passed.

A bill to define the time of holding courts in the 19th Judicial District. Read 2nd time and laid on the table.

A bill attaching the Counties of Clay and Wichita to the County of Montague for judicial purposes. Read 2nd time and passed to 3rd reading.

A bill to authorize the clerks of the several counties to demand fees, &c., in advance of labor performed. Read 2nd time and, on Mr. Burnett's motion, indefinitely postponed.

A bill to prevent the sale of vinous, spirituous, or other intoxicating drinks within one mile of the town of Alto. Read 2nd time and passed to 3rd reading. Rule suspended, read 3rd time and passed.

House bill providing for the sale of the United States five per cent bonds, &c. Read 1st and 2nd times and referred to Finance Committee.

Mr. Guinn moved to take up joint resolution defining the pay of certain State troops. Carried.

Mr. Lea moved to lay on table. Lost.

On motion of Mr. Guinn the Senate adjourned until 7 o'clock P. M.

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Senate met, roll called, quorum present.

On Mr. Casey's motion Mr. Wheeler was added to Committee on Private Land Claims.

Mr. Casey introduced a joint resolution to distribute arms to the members of the Legislature at their cost to the State. Laid on table.

A message was received from the House informing the Senate that the House had passed the following bills:

Senate bill for the relief of Samuel Everett.

Senate bill to amend the 2nd section of the Act to incorporate the Dallas Bridge Company.

A joint resolution defining the pay of certain State troops. Read 2nd time. Mr. Hartley moved to refer to Committee on Finance. On Mr. Branch's motion Mr. Hartley's motion was tabled. The committee's substitute was then adopted.

Mr. Lea offered a substitute. Mr. Hartley moved to refer to Committee on Finance, and Mr. Branch moved to table the motion, which was done.

On motion of Mr. Erath the Senate adjourned until 10 o'clock A. M. tomorrow.

Wednesday, December 11, 1861.

Senate met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by the Chaplain, roll called, quorum present. The journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

Mr. Weatherford, Chairman of the Committee on Private Land Claims, reported upon the petition of Martha Brennan, a bill for her relief, and recommended its passage. Read 1st time. Also recommended that the following petitions be referred to Committee on Court of Claims which was done, viz., petition of heirs of T. Hart, of heirs of James Callan, heirs of William R. Day.

Mr. Guinn from the Committee on the Court of Claims made the following report:

That of the applications on file in the office of the commissioner to which their attention has been specially directed, and upon which by reason of a non-compliance upon the part of the applicants with the provisions of the law of February 1, 1861, the commissioner has taken no action, the following have been favorably considered:

Theophilus Wells for a headright of 640 acres.

John R. Cannon for a headright of 320 acres.

J. B. Shade for a headright of 320 acres bounty land.

P. W. Birmingham for a headright of 320 acres bounty land.

Samuel Smith for a headright of 320 acres bounty land.

Heirs of Joseph Shepard for 640 acres donation and 320 acres bounty land.

The committee have also favorably considered a bill for the relief of Pleasant M. Miller to them referred by the Senate.

The above cases and perhaps others to be considered will be included in a general bill to be presented at an early day containing suitable provisions covering the respective cases of relief sought.

They have rejected for satisfactory reasons after careful investigation the following claims:

Charles Linney: 1 league, 1 labor, H. R. [headright].

W. H. H. Frensley: 640 acres, H. R. [headright].

Thomas G. McGehee for a certificate covering the amount of conflict between two Mexican titles.

Francisco Mesa: for augmentation from 1280 acres to 1 league, 1 labor.